

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free
of charge, and is
obligated by law to
serve the public
interest. But when
large companies
control the
airwaves, we get
more of what's good
for the bottom line
and less of what we
need for our
democracy. Instead
of something
produced at "News
Central" far away,
it's more important
that we see real
people from our own
communities and more
substantive news
about issues that
matter.

I also believe that
smear campaigns such
as this are slander
at best. As such
they are illegal in
my opinion and
should be legally
barred from being
used like this to
affect the public
opinion and
potentially the
outcome of an
election.

The FCC is a part of
the US Government.
It is the job of the
US government to
ensure a fair
election process. As
such it is your
responsibility to
police the media
outlets to ensure
that
"advertisements" of
this nature are not
forced onto the

public in a blatant attempt to alter the public's choice in elected officials.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. And lastly they also show that election advertising by candidates needs more oversight and restrictions, not just reform of cash contributions.

Thank you.